

Claims

1. A transport device (10) for transporting sheets, in particular bank notes
5 and check forms, having pairs of belts comprising at least two endless
belts and rotatable rolls to guide and to drive the belts, a transport path
for the transport of one or more sheets being formed between the belts,
and the transport direction of the sheets being determined by the
direction of rotation of the rolls,
10 **characterized by**
- a. a first belt transport unit (15) comprising at least one first belt (12)
and at least one second belt (14), the first belt (12) being guided by
rolls (16, 18) and the second belt (14) being guided by rolls (20,
15 22), and a transport path for sheets being formed between the
belts (12, 14), and
- b. a second belt transport unit (5) comprising at least one first belt
(26) which is guided by rolls (28, 30), and at least two second belts
20 (32, 38), which are guided by rolls (36, 34) and rolls (40, 42), the
belt (32) forming with the belt (26) a first belt transport section (33),
and the belt (38) forming with the belt (26) a second belt transport
section (39), and a transport path for sheets being formed between
the belts of the first and second belt transport section (33, 39), and

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c. the second belt transport unit (5) being arranged transversely with respect to the first belt transport unit (5), and

d. a sheet which is transported along the transport path of the first belt transport unit (15) in the direction of the second belt transport unit (5) and striking the belt (26) with its leading edge being transferred into the first belt transport section (33) or the second belt transport section (39), depending on the direction of rotation of the rolls (28, 30; 36, 34; 40, 42).

2. The transport device as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in** that the rolls (34) and the rolls (40) of the first and second belt transport section (33, 39) are arranged so close beside one another that a sheet can be transported from one belt transport section (33, 39) into the respective other belt transport section (39, 33).

3. The transport device as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **characterized in** that, by means of controlling the direction of rotation of the rolls (28, 30; 36, 34; 40; 42) of the second belt transport unit (5), one or more sheet stacks can be formed between the belts (26, 32, 38) of the second belt transport unit (5) and can be moved along the second belt transport unit (5).

4. The transport device as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **characterized in** that the distance between the belt (26), on the one

hand, and the belts (32, 38) of the second belt transport unit (5), on the other hand, can be adjusted in such a way that sheet stacks of different heights can be formed and transported between the belts (26, 32, 38).

- 5 5. The transport device (10) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **characterized in** that the roll (16) of the first belt transport unit (15) and the roll (34) of the second belt transport unit (5) are arranged on a common axle (44).
- 10 6. The transport device (10) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **characterized in** that the roll (20) of the first belt transport unit (15) and the roll (40) of the second belt transport unit (5) are arranged on a common axle (46).
- 15 7. The transport device as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **characterized in** that an adjustable guide element (72) is provided, which can be adjusted from a neutral position, in which it has no influence on the sheet transport, into a deflection position, in which it projects into the path of a sheet transported in one of the sections (33, 39) of the second belt transport unit (5) in the direction of the inner end of the latter and deflects said sheet by the leading edge into the first belt transport unit (15).
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8. The transport device as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **characterized in** that it is arranged in an appliance (58) for paying bank notes in and/or out.

5 9. The transport device as claimed in claim 9, **characterized in** that the appliance (58) for paying in and/or out has a safe (64), the second belt transport unit (5) is arranged outside the safe (64), and the first belt transport unit (15) is led through an opening (70) in the wall of the safe (64).

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10. The transport device as claimed in claim 8 or 9, **characterized in** that the outer end of the first wall of the second section (33, 39) of the second belt transport unit is formed as an input point (62) and/or output point for bank notes.